BYOD Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Protecting your Technology

As these are student owned devices, we recommend you take out a suitable level of insurance cover that meets your requirements, in case of accidental damage (please note Apple Care may not cover some issues). The College does not insure any personal item that is brought onsite.

It is also recommended to obtain a strong, secure case for your iPad, and should you have a laptop, some have additional cases for extra protection (e.g. Macbook Pro). The Otterbox Defender series are a good place to start.

Textbooks

Having a device that is small and portable with a large battery life, means we can start to transition away from heavy textbooks for multiple classes and load the digital copies, saving bag space and weight.

Connecting your device to the College Network

Teachers have been provided with a set of instructions on how to setup your devices on the College network. Whilst the devices are connected to the network, all internet activity is subjected to the same level of filtering as the College desktop computers. This can change if an iPad has 3G/4G access or mobile phone data is used.

Be aware that these can incur a significant cost and the College advises against the use of 3G/4G as devices cannot be monitored or filtered.

Laptop or iPad?

Caloundra Christian College has investigated this matter at great lengths, as well as investigating what other schools are doing. iPads (minimum of 32GB and WiFi) are the device of choice at present for Years 7 - 10, as they provide long battery life, are easy to carry and have a wide variety of apps available at cheaper prices. As classes will be designed around iPad programs, having a laptop may not give you the full access to the learning experience. This does not mean you can bring a laptop.

Students in Years 11 and 12 would benefit more by using a laptop rather than an iPad.

The recommended specifications of a laptop for school work and general work is the following:
- Intel Core i3 Processor
- 4GB minimum of RAM (8GB recommended)
- 500GB hard drive (This may need to be increased depending on content, music, data etc)
- No less than 2 year's old
- Windows 7 or greater
- Microsoft Office Suite
- Antivirus Software (Microsoft Security Essentials or AVG for more advanced internet security)

Maintenance and Technical Issues

All maintenance for iPads / laptops is the responsibility of the owner and will need to be directed to a local computer repair shop for servicing. Please be aware that the College will not be responsible for problems incurred such as viruses, Spyware/Malware and other technical related issues.

Wireless and Internet

All households should have access to the internet and particularly wireless internet throughout the house, to make use of the iPad's portability for assignment research and downloading apps and updates onto devices. The Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner website provides information on suitable filtering for internet safety - https://esafety.gov.au/.

The College WiFi network has had a large scale upgrade with more areas now having a stronger signal. This will continue to grow and improve as time goes on.

Caloundra Christian College Digital Use Policy

As with all technology there is a fine balance as to when to put devices down. At the College, iPads and mobile phones should not be used during the lunch break, unless specific research is being undertaken in the Resource Centre. This ensures that a healthy balance between technology and social/physical skills is maintained, as well as giving the eyes a rest between classes.

Will I use my iPad for all my school computing?

For some areas of the curriculum, the College still has desktops provided, particularly for AutoCAD and more intensive programs such as Photoshop. While the iPad can be used for 90% of all work, occasional computer use can be easier and quicker for certain tasks, and may be preferable for home use. Access to technologies such as Apple's iCloud and other programs such as Dropbox, SkyDrive, and G-Drive, allows students to help prevent losing their work due to hardware failure, and allows access on other computers.

The iPad has no USB, how do I transfer files?

With iCloud and other programs as mentioned above, the need for USB drives are decreasing, as all work is stored online and in multiple places to prevent loss. However, you can still connect an iPad to iTunes on a computer to transfer files under the apps local storage area.

How do I print from the iPad?

The College is shifting towards an eco-friendly situation and recommends against printing if at all possible. However, should your teacher require a hard copy, you can email the document to yourself and log onto a College computer to print. iPads can now print directly to photocopiers. To enable this function, you must install the PaperCut App. Instructions are located in the Library beside the copiers.

iPads can't open Microsoft Office documents can they?

With any new iPad device purchased, you will receive a copy of Pages, Keynote and Numbers free, which is Apple's equivalent of Microsoft Office and can open any document you currently have saved in the Microsoft format. The Microsoft Office app is also available. You can sign in with your student email and password.

What size should I get?

For College purchases and general work, we recommend the 32GB version as a minimum. By the time you start adding programs, taking videos and pictures, storage space can quickly be used up.

Can I buy another tablet that isn't an iPad?

The College has investigated other tablets, and whilst they are cheaper in some cases, they do not have the same quality of programs as found in the Apple App store. In addition, tablet devices powered by Android are very fragmented and versions can vary significantly between each device. What may work on one device may not work on another. Therefore, we do not recommend other tablets such as Android powered tablets.